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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/606,734	06/29/2000	David L. Black	07072-113001	6696

22494 7590 04/13/2004

DALY, CROWLEY & MOFFORD, LLP
SUITE 101
275 TURNPIKE STREET
CANTON, MA 02021-2310

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, THAN VINH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2187

DATE MAILED: 04/13/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application N .

09/606,734

Applicant(s)

BLACK ET AL.

Examiner

Than Nguyen

Art Unit

2187

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4,7,15 and 23-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2,3,5,6,8-14 and 16-22 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 June 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER
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11

DATE MAILED:

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Commissioner for Patents

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after allowance or after an Office action under *Ex Parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935). Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114.

Applicant's submission filed on 1/29/04 has been entered.

2. Claims 1-26 are presented for examination.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement filed 1/29/04 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each U.S. and foreign patent; each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered. Although Applicant did not submit copies of the cited US patents, the Examiner has printed new copies for the record. Applicant did not submit copies of the cited foreign patent documents and other documents, as cited on the PTO-1449, filed 1/29/04. The Examiner does not have access to these documents. Applicant is required to submit these documents in order for them to be considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

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4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1,4,7,15,23-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chung et al (USP 6,470,389).

As to claim 1,4,7,15,23-26:

Chung teaches methods and apparatus for message transfer in computer storage system including an array of storage devices, a system cache memory, back end directors for controlling data transfer between the storage devices and system cache memory, and front end directors for controlling data transfer between the cache memory and host computer. Chung teaches a method of transferring data comprising:

preparing, in one of the directors, a message to be sent to a receiving director(s) (generate packet; 5/59-62);

building a descriptor comprising a command field indicating the receiving director(s) to receive the message (destination address; 2/18);

encapsulating the message payload of the descriptor into a packet, such packet comprising:

a header, such header including: a source portion indicating the transmitting director; a destination portion indicating the receiving director (header of packet; 2/1-3/58);

the message payload (the request; 2/1-67);

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transmitting the packet to the director(s) through the network (send packet over network/
1/57-2/50);

decoding the destination portion of the packet to route the packet to the receiving director
(route packet to destination 7/39-8/15).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 2,3,5,6,8-14,16-22 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. As to claims 2,5,8,10,12,16,20 Chung does not teach nor suggest teaches receiving the transmitted packet in the director; determining if the received packet is from a proper transmitting director; and deencapsulating the received packet after determining that the packet is from a proper transmitting director.

8. Claims 3,6,9,13,14,17,18,21,22 are also allowable for incorporating the limitations of parent claims 2,5,8,12,16,20, and further limitations.

9. As to claim 11,19 the prior art of record does not teach the descriptor includes a message payload indicating an address in the bank of disk drives having the requested data.

Conclusion

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Than Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-3866. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. EST.

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11. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.

12. The fax phone number for Art Unit 2187 is 703-872,9306.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Than Nguyen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Than Nguyen

Primary Patent Examiner

April 9, 2004